

and by his bedside as his illness lingered on for years; their daughter Yonnie Clark; their son and my friend Cook County Board President Todd Stroger, his family; and their two grandchildren. America and the State of Illinois have lost a great leader and I have lost a great friend.

I yield the floor.

UNION LEAGUE CLUB OF CHICAGO

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I wish to congratulate the Union League Club of Chicago and its Boys and Girls Clubs. This month they celebrate an important milestone.

The Union League Club of Chicago was founded in 1879, adopting the motto "commitment to country and community." Throughout its long and distinguished history, the Union League Club of Chicago has maintained a strong tradition of civic involvement. Over the years, Club members have been a part of politics and society, advocating on issues ranging from election reform to the death penalty. The Union League Club of Chicago also helped develop community support for cultural institutions as they were coming into the community, including Orchestra Hall, the Field Museum, and the Harold Washington Library Center.

In 1920, recognizing a critical need in the community, the Union League Club of Chicago established the Union League Boys Club, a club designed to serve the large population of underprivileged children in Chicago.

Today, the club opens the doors of its four Chicago area facilities to disadvantaged youth who are in communities with some Chicago's the lowest educational attainment levels and highest dropout and poverty rates. In addition to providing wholesome social and recreational opportunities, the Union League Boys and Girls Clubs offer a wide variety of structured programs that emphasize character building and empowerment.

The clubs provide a safe and inviting refuge for young Chicagoans, free from the negative influences of drugs, gangs, and violence. Studies have shown that afterschool programs, like those offered by the Union League Boys and Girls Clubs, can reduce urban crime rates by keeping teens off the streets and providing positive alternatives.

At each club, members are served balanced snacks and meals and given nutritional guidance they can use when not at the club. The clubs also provide an environment in which students can tackle their homework, with assistance when they need it and access to personal computers. Not surprisingly, club members average significantly higher grade point averages than their peers.

A full-time professional staff, assisted by part-time workers and volunteers, provides high school students with career guidance and job training to help young club members become responsible citizens. Each year, the clubs award scholarships to help members pay for college or trade school.

In the summer, members take advantage of the 250-acre summer camp owned by the clubs. Located a short distance north of the Illinois-Wisconsin border, the camp gives Chicago youth an opportunity to experience and enjoy the outdoors.

This month, the Union League Boys and Girls Clubs realize a remarkable achievement. For the first time in its 87-year history, the Clubs will enroll the 10,000th member in a single program year.

Mr. President, I join the Chicago community in commending the Union League Club of Chicago and its Boys and Girls Clubs for outstanding commitment to the welfare of the community and for enriching thousands of young lives—in the past, today, and for decades to come.

RETIREMENT OF GREG HARNESS

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, on January 31, 2008, the Senate Librarian, Mr. Greg Harness, will retire. With his departure, we will lose a dedicated, loyal, and very important member of the Senate family.

The Senate Library is a fundamental part of the U.S. Senate. Operating under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate, the Senate Library serves as both a legislative and general reference library, and provides a wide variety of information services to Senators and our staffs in a prompt and timely fashion. It maintains a comprehensive collection of congressional and governmental publications and of materials relating to the specialized needs of the Senate.

The origins of this unique and important institution date back to 1792, when the Senate directed the Secretary "to procure and deposit in his office, the laws of the states, for the use of the Senate." The first Senate Librarian to be appointed was George S. Wagner, who officially commenced his duties on July 1, 1871.

In 1997, Greg Harness became the 17th Senate Librarian. A native of North Dakota, Mr. Harness began work in the Senate Library on October 20, 1975, as a reference librarian. He planned to work only a few years in Washington and then return to North Dakota to attend law school. Fortunately, his plans changed.

Mr. Harness continued his employment in the Senate Library for the next 32 years. As a reference librarian, Mr. Harness was a wonderful and pleasant person with whom to work. He undertook every request, no matter how large or small, how urgent or demanding, whether from the majority or the minority, and answered it effectively, professionally, and promptly. He always took that extra step to ensure that the Senator or his staff member received the best, the most accurate, and the most recent information.

As the Senate Librarian, Mr. Harness directed the administrative and professional operations of the Senate Li-

brary. He oversaw the movement of the Library from the Capitol to the Russell Building in 1999 and oversaw the design of the new Senate Library. More important, he continued that same cooperative, helpful attitude that he had always displayed as a reference librarian. As a result, he set a model of superior service for his entire staff.

Mr. President, I want to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Harness for his years of loyalty to the Senate, as well as his dedicated and distinguished service. And, I want him to know that my staff and I will certainly miss him. I wish him happiness and success as he enters the next phase of his life.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL DONALD C. STORM

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I wish to honor a respected Kentuckian, MG Donald C. Storm, who has nobly served the United States and Kentucky for 37 years.

In 1970, General Storm enlisted in the U.S. Army, serving with Military Assistance Command Vietnam. After 2 years of Active Duty, he continued to serve his country in the Kentucky National Guard. Years of accomplishment and experience earned General Storm the appointment to Adjutant General of the Kentucky National Guard by Governor Ernie Fletcher in 2003. Regretfully, after 37 years of service and 4 years in that post, General Storm has decided to retire. Because of his dignified and unwavering commitment to the citizens of this country and the Commonwealth of Kentucky, I stand to honor him today.

General Storm has served the Commonwealth and its citizens in superb ways. He was an advocate for the destruction of marijuana, supporting the Marijuana Eradication Program; he oversaw a recruitment program that exceeded its goals; and finally, he was a true leader and supporter of his troops. General Storm was known for his dedication to the care of his soldiers and their families, celebrating with them in times of victory and mourning with them in times of loss.

Storm has clearly proved himself a man of honor and dignity who represents not only his country proudly but his State proudly. I wish General Storm and his family much happiness after retirement, and I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring General Storm for his dedication, patriotism, and willingness to give so much of himself for the good of his country and his fellow Kentuckians.

Mr. President, recently the Lexington Herald-Leader published a story about Major General Storm, "Generally Speaking; Retiring Guard chief's mission: 'Take care of the troops.'" I ask unanimous consent to have the full article printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows: